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105.562 - OPRPT - DF New Brunswick, N.J.
October 5, 1926

RE: SI GOURNEY SMITH

Last evening I interviewed Myron Pollard at his residence, Mill Road, Bodine's Corners. Pollard, according to information which you furnished, was reported to be a friend of the above named. His story in substance is as follows.

A short time prior to the date of the murder he was employed by the Unexcelled Firework Company under Supt. Stern; that he and Stern were friends. Stern died about that time and as he owned a grave plot at the Elmwood Cemetery, he offered a portion of it to Mrs. Stern for the interment of her husband. In assisting Mrs. Stern he visited the cemetery to arrange for the opening of the grave and in this way he met Smith, who was employed as a grave digger. From time to time when he visited the cemetery to look after the graves in his plot, he met Smith and they would talk together. He claims that he was never on what might be termed "friendly terms" with Smith, although on one occasion he said Smith had taken him to a place where he secured quite a quantity of hickory nuts.

That either the Saturday afternoon or Monday following the finding of the bodies, he met Smith and knowing that he lived over in the direction of the Phillips Farm, he remarked to Smith that he must have had some excitement over in his neighborhood. Smith replied that he had not heard any shots and knew nothing about the affair. Smith did not mention ever having been visited by Mrs. Gibson or having been told by her to keep quiet. Pollard's best recollection is that he asked Smith the direct question as to whether he had heard shots and he had replied in the negative.

Pollard resents the fact that the newspaper men four years ago had referred to him as a grave digger and a friend of Smith's. He says that he knows Mr. Watson very well and would gladly tell the story at any time, if it was of any value to us.

Respectfully yours,
David Thompson

P.S. Pollard suggested that I see Louis Kalem the Superintendent of the cemetery, which I will do.

D. T.